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ADDRESS BY DR. BOUTROS BOUTROS-GHALI, SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS, AT THE INAUGURAL CEREMONY ON 27 APRIL 1996

Allow me, first, to express some personal thoughts. In so doing, I know I speak not only for the United Nations, and for myself, but for everyone here today.

It is deeply moving for all of us to be welcomed to South Africa by President Nelson Mandela, on the occasion of this UNCTAD IX. Nothing could show more clearly that South Africa has overcome the evils of its past. Nothing could provide clearer proof that South Africa has taken giant steps forward on the path of democracy, equality and national reconciliation. Thanks to you, Sir, South Africa has become an example to the world. South Africa is a source of pride for the international community.

You and your country waged a long struggle for social justice. UNCTAD, too, has been engaged in such a struggle. The agenda for UNCTAD IX is a challenge for the international community. Put simply, that challenge is to "promote growth and sustainable development in a globalizing and liberalizing international economy".

The global economy is now a fact of life. In the economic field, large companies are feeling the impact of technological progress and new production methods. They constantly seek increased efficiency and productivity. They are becoming global, often as part of huge transnational groups. The financial sector is already virtually globalized. Deregulation, the ending of exchange controls, and instant worldwide communication have transformed its operations. In the information field, instant and universal communication of large quantities of data is a new feature of international life. Globalization brings progress. It should be encouraged. But dangers remain.

The global economy can be hard on those unable to benefit from its opportunities. Traditional ties of community and solidarity can be undermined. Whole countries and regions can become marginalized. So, the gap between rich and poor grows ever wider.

UNCTAD developed the concept of interdependence. UNCTAD understands how the different components of development come together. So today, UNCTAD's mission is as relevant as it ever was. The world has changed. But UNCTAD's basic mission has not changed. UNCTAD's mission is to ensure that international trade is a force for the durable development of all peoples and nations. That was UNCTAD's challenge yesterday. It remains UNCTAD's challenge today and tomorrow.

The very first UNCTAD convened, 32 years ago in Geneva, at the invitation of the General Assembly of the United Nations. Those who framed UNCTAD's mission and purpose showed great vision and political imagination. Looking back, we can see how innovative they were. They defined the aim and purpose of UNCTAD as - quite simply - to make international trade a key instrument of economic development.

Raul Prebisch - who later became UNCTAD's first Secretary-General - laid out, in his famous introductory report to the first UNCTAD, the main guidelines for a new third-world view of international trade policy. On this foundation were built, over time, whole new structures of international development law.

Many of those involved in these new departures were Latin Americans. Manuel Perez Guerrero was such a Latin American visionary of development. Today, in different conditions, Latin Americans continue the tradition. UNCTAD VIII, held in Cartagena, was a landmark event. I pay tribute today to the work of the current Secretary-General of UNCTAD, Mr. Rubens Ricupero. He and other Latin Americans continue today that tradition of concern for economic development and social justice.

UNCTAD's early role was to define and debate principles and policies. Studies of crucial economic and financial issues affecting developing countries were undertaken. All States were encouraged to join in. The North/South dialogue largely took place within UNCTAD, with the support of UNCTAD and the benefit of the aims of UNCTAD.

But that was not all. UNCTAD took on other roles. It became a centre for advocacy and negotiation as well. Soon after it was established, UNCTAD pioneered international commodity agreements in, for example, cocoa, rubber, jute and tropical hardwoods. UNCTAD was crucial in setting up the Integrated Programme for Commodities. And UNCTAD was instrumental in the adoption of the generalized system of preferences, and of the Convention on a Code of Conduct for Liner Conferences. UNCTAD launched a proposal for a global South/South preference system.

I must, at this stage, pay tribute to an eminent son of Africa, the late Kenneth Dadzie. He piloted the institution through the two previous conferences, Geneva and Cartagena. UNCTAD developed a remarkable capacity to adapt to the changing environment. But it never lost sight of its central

development mission. This catalogue of UNCTAD's achievements is not intended merely to extol the past. It is not simply to review the history of a successful United Nations institution.

I refer to the past in order to point the way to UNCTAD's future. UNCTAD's history has been rich and fruitful. Today, UNCTAD remains an essential tool at the disposal of the international community. UNCTAD stands ready to assist that community to come to terms with the economic and commercial consequences of global economy.

We all realize that we are entering a new era of international trade relations. But we also realize that the rules of the emerging trade order that is currently taking shape still require much work and clarification. Trade and development law in the world society is still, for us, an area in which much work is being done.

The realization of the global nature of international trade is what prompted the establishment of the Uruguay Round of negotiations and gave rise to the new World Trade Organization (WTO). Henceforth, together with the Bretton Woods institutions, WTO has, as its mission, to take over the regulation and oversight of international trade relations.

I welcomed the establishment of this institution. And I am pleased with the trusting working relationship that the United Nations has with the World Trade Organization under the guidance of Renato Ruggiero. Each day we see the tremendous complementarity that exists between the World Trade Organization and UNCTAD. For today, in the context of international economic institutions, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development is in the process of finding its rightful place.

UNCTAD, in my view, must now seek to achieve the following three goals:

It must, first and foremost, be a place of consensus, a forum where countries can formulate, express and share their views on development issues. These issues often go beyond - far beyond - trade rules. For today everyone agrees that money, finance, investment, technology and trade are all increasingly interdependent. Seen from this viewpoint, the role of UNCTAD is, therefore, to participate in this integrated approach and also to emphasize the development dimension in each of these areas. Everyone is aware of how helpful this function can be to the progress of negotiations that are taking place in other forums, and particularly within the World Trade Organization.

Secondly, UNCTAD must fulfil a technical assistance role. This function must be fulfilled in particular with respect to the most disadvantaged countries. UNCTAD's mission today is to be, for the least developed countries, one of the principal agents of change. It must offer the least developed countries a way to become part of the international trade order. Thus, at the national level, UNCTAD must help the most disadvantaged countries to strengthen their infrastructure in the area of trade. Likewise, at the international level, UNCTAD must enable these States to adapt better to the trade rules that are taking shape and to benefit, equitably, from the advantages of world trade.

Finally, UNCTAD must continue to be the "conscience" and advocate of the developing and most disadvantaged countries. No other institutions can fulfil this function. We must not be blind to the fact that, in the past, this function has sometimes led UNCTAD to make proposals which, because they sought to effect reforms, some people considered unrealistic at the time. However, today we are seeing the change that UNCTAD has wrought in order to adapt - beyond considerations of ideology - to the reality of the world and of the market economy. For it is striving to reach out to the real actors of development, that is to say, the enterprises and national decision makers, by overhauling its mission and working methods. Undoubtedly, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development has thereby enhanced its credibility.

I should also like to stress that development in our global community should be seen in all its complexity. It cannot be reduced to economic growth alone, for it has social, political, cultural and psychological dimensions as well. Now more than ever, there is a need for the continued existence of a body which, as part of the United Nations system, is tuned into all these dimensions and all these hopes.

I should like to add, lastly, that the global nature of contemporary international society forces us to expand our ideas beyond a strict, rigid concept of relations among States. We must take into account the real situation of all the economic actors. Here again, UNCTAD has shown that it is paying close attention to the changes taking place in the world and is trying to set up a vast economic forum with as wide a membership as possible.

This UNCTAD session bears witness to this effort. With 188 member States, it is the largest intergovernmental assembly having a mandate to promote development through trade. And thanks to the participation of private-sector agents, financial institutions, transnational corporations, non-governmental organizations and the academic and research world, UNCTAD is making an essential contribution to the achievement of one of our major goals, the democratization of international economic relations. I hope that your deliberations will give a new thrust to this process. For UNCTAD is certainly the irreplaceable - and I do mean irreplaceable - forum of the global community.

Today, we are called upon to face many difficult challenges together. We should be proud, of course, of the recovery of the international economy and of the growth of international trade, in both volume and value. Of course, we should recognize as a source of hope the fact that many developing countries, especially in Asia, are showing as good an economic performance as the most highly developed and industrialized countries. But we must also firmly resolve to deal with the overwhelming problems that weigh upon the poorest countries, especially in the African continent. I know that these concerns are at the core of your work.

In deciding to launch, together with the whole United Nations system, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, a Special Initiative on Africa, I wanted to help mobilize the international community. I wanted every United Nations organization to make its experience, in its own field of competence, available to Africa. But I also wanted to send a message to

African men and women to help keep their confidence alive, to support their activities, to tell them that we are encouraging them in their efforts and to remind them that they do not have to face the future alone.

In speaking to you here today, I wanted to tell you how important the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development is, in my view, and how much significance I attach to its future action.

Of course, like all organizations, it must undergo reform and keep adapting to the realities of the world. But it has already done so to a large extent. Now more than ever, it is an essential organ of United Nations action in the field of trade, development, equity and social justice for all peoples and all nations. Long live South Africa! Long live Africa!

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MESSAGE RECEIVED FROM FLIGHT-LIEUTENANT JERRY JOHN RAWLINGS, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF GHANA

May I, on behalf of the people and Government of Ghana, and in my own name, extend to the Ninth Session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development my best wishes.

For us in Ghana, this Conference which is taking place in Midrand in the Republic of South Africa is significant in a number of ways.

We all recall that the first and the last time a session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development was held in Africa was in the sister Republic of Kenya in 1976, exactly 20 years ago. Since then, a number of momentous events have taken place in international relations, one of the most historic of which has been the establishment of a multi-racial democratic society in the Republic of South Africa.

The convening of UNCTAD IX in this beautiful country is, therefore, a consummation of the valiant efforts of men and women of vision of the Republic of South Africa. This Conference is a clear vote of confidence in the new South Africa.

For 30 years, UNCTAD has served the developing countries as a platform for articulating their views on the shortcomings of the international economic order which evolved after the Second World War. In many developing countries, the economic and social circumstances of the average population have deteriorated with time. While it is true that the solution of economic problems has not been facilitated by inappropriate policies, it cannot be denied that, in a very large measure, multilateral institutions for

development have not been able to rally fully to the challenges of development posed by the needs of newcomers to the international economic arena. This situation has been compounded by factors affecting the economies of our development partners which have induced a degree of reluctance on their part in providing development assistance, especially financial resources.

My Government is firmly of the view that until there are innovative approaches to the problems of development, the emerging international economic order will continue to witness the aggravation of poverty, unemployment and social disorder to the detriment of all our nations.

As one of the most universal institutions which provides a unique platform for a global partnership for development, UNCTAD should be reinforced to confront this challenge and enhance the capacity of governments, particularly those of the developing countries, to find solutions to their various and persistent economic problems.

The issues before the Ninth Session of the Conference are vital to the very survival of millions who do not have the opportunity to be here to make their views known, nor their voices heard. It is the task of your Conference to represent those views and ensure that your conclusions hold out for the disadvantaged of the world a meaningful prospect of a better quality of life.

It is my hope that the Ninth Session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development will make that decisive contribution to humanity's well-being.

May your deliberations be crowned with success.

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MESSAGE RECEIVED FROM H.E. MR. V. CHERNOMYRDIN, PRESIDENT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

On the occasion of the ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, I greet the participants of the Conference and wish them success in the work of this authoritative and representative international forum.

In the more than 30 years of its existence, UNCTAD has made a substantial contribution to solving key economic problems and has had a significant positive impact on efforts to accelerate the economic growth of developing countries, restructure the world economy and ensure the economic progress of the world community as a whole.

In today's conditions, marked by a growing trend towards the globalization and liberalization of global economic relations, regional integration and increasing interdependence of national economies, UNCTAD has a particularly important role to play in developing new approaches to contemporary economic problems.

I am sure that in these new conditions, UNCTAD will demonstrate once again its capacity to react flexibly to the challenges of our time, adapting its work to the nature of economic relations in today's world, and will use its rich potential to solve effectively the economic development problems on the eve of the twenty-first century. I would like to assure you that in this activity, UNCTAD will continue to receive full understanding and all necessary support from the Russian Federation.

I would be grateful if participants at the Conference would transmit to their Governments and peoples our sincere wishes for peace, progress, stability and well-being.

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MESSAGE RECEIVED FROM THE PRIME MINISTER OF MONGOLIA TO THE NINTH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

On behalf of the Government of Mongolia, I would like to extend to all of the participants in the Ninth Session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development my most sincere welcome and wishes for a successful Conference.

The Government of Mongolia highly appreciates and supports the activities of UNCTAD, one of the most authoritative specialized agencies of the United Nations, in its primary objective for the promotion and acceleration of economic growth through development of international trade, in particular its central role in promoting development of developing and least developed countries.

Our Government is pleased with the increase of cooperation between Mongolia and UNCTAD, which is particularly important at the time of our transition to a market economy.

I wish to express our confidence that productive cooperation between Mongolia and UNCTAD will expand and develop further.

My best wishes to all of you in your work towards the important endeavours of UNCTAD.

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Document submitted by the Joint Inspection Unit

Note by the UNCTAD secretariat

At the request of the Joint Inspection Unit, a document entitled "The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD): Review of institutional and programme issues" (JIU/REP/96/1), prepared by Homero L. Hernández, is being made available to participants in the languages in which it was received (i.e. Chinese, English, French and Spanish). Copies of the document will be available at the Documents Distribution Counter.

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Document submitted by the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP Group)

Note by the UNCTAD secretariat

At the request of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP Group), a document entitled "Main conclusions and recommendations of the ACP Seminar on UNCTAD IX" (10-12 April 1996) (ACP/67/018/96 Rev.1) is being made available to participants in the languages in which it was received (i.e. English and French), in accordance with rule 80 of the rules of procedure of the Conference. Copies of the document will be available at the Documents Distribution Counter.

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ADDRESS BY H.E. MR. NELSON MANDELA, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA, AT THE INAUGURAL CEREMONY ON 27 APRIL 1996

This great gathering comes at a critical moment as the world faces the challenges of development and world poverty.

For South Africa it is a privilege to host those who played such a vital role in our liberation. It is a special joy, on this second anniversary of our Freedom Day, to wish you all a hearty welcome.

South Africa's liberation has brought the opportunity at last to address apartheid's legacy of poverty and inequality. It has brought propitious circumstances for building a framework for the promotion of sustained growth and balanced development particularly in Southern Africa.

We have no illusions about the immensity of the tasks we face as a country, as a region and as a continent - but we are also confident that we are making progress and learning valuable lessons.

Issues of trade and development affect the whole world, but they do have particular significance for Africa, placed by history and circumstance at the bottom of many a ladder and yet determined to realize the promise of her rebirth.

We therefore thank UNCTAD for choosing our country and our continent of Africa as the location of its Ninth Ministerial Conference.

I would also take this opportunity to thank the Conference for the confidence it has expressed in the South African Government by electing South Africa to the presidency of UNCTAD.

ZA.96-55119 (E)

When world leaders set out three decades ago to create an instrument in UNCTAD to help overcome the inequities in the world economy, they could scarcely have expected that the closing years of the century would be witness to hunger, homelessness and unemployment on such a scale as we now have.

In spite of the immense economic and technological gains that have been made, in spite of the end of the cold war, the reality is that the world at the end of the twentieth century is no more secure a place for most of its inhabitants, as that poverty and need continue to blight their lives.

Though these scourges are with us still, in other respects we find ourselves in a world radically changed from that in which UNCTAD first defined the particular needs of developing countries.

The old economic and trading blocs which traced the landscape of world trade have changed.

The world trade regime has changed.

Capital movements are freer - and more volatile, as we are experiencing in South Africa at present.

Technology changes at an increasingly rapid pace and on a global scale, inducing rapid change in industrial processes.

These changes bring great opportunities - but also severe challenges and problems. They take on specific and different meanings for powerful players in the global economy and for those without power. Greater market access and free or fair trade are prized in the capitals of the world - but hold no promise for those countries producing few goods and services with which to trade, and with no market power to pursue their interests.

For much of the world, especially the Least Developed Countries, inequities are further compounded by lack of access to instruments that were available to other countries when they were in similar positions. The danger is that, left to its own devices, the current regime can only entrench this inequality and widen the gap between rich and poor nations.

Our mission, therefore, must be shaped by the real needs of those whom history has marginalized. That we cannot leave them to the vagaries of the world economy was precisely the wisdom which informed the founding of UNCTAD.

It is common cause that the United Nations has to restructure itself to meet the demands of the new millennium. In equal measure UNCTAD has to forge for itself a new position in the world economy, in the light of these changes and needs, so that it is equipped to accomplish in the twenty-first century the objectives for which it was established.

Central to that new position, we are convinced, must be a "Partnership for Development", built on the ideas articulated by UNCTAD four years ago.

South Africa's own experience, as we grapple with the task of addressing our own wide disparities of wealth and poverty, highlights in particular three aspects of partnership.

Firstly, the changes in economic and trading groups which have taken place demand more flexible arrangements than a simple relation of developed to developing nation. For example, South Africa's relation to SADC, of fundamental importance to us, is a partnership very different from our partnership with the European Union. As such, each partnership would require attention to particular needs and circumstances.

Secondly, development cannot be the responsibility only of government. Success requires Governments to join hands with their social partners: non-governmental organizations; the private sector; and other parts of civil society.

Lastly, all these partners need to recognize that the potential contribution of the private sector to the development process is very great indeed, whether it is in infrastructure, technological change or human resource development. In this regard they should cooperate in making development an integral part of the pursuit of business, rather than an additional activity which it might or might not engage in.

We are confident that this Conference will strengthen our shared commitment and create the basis for strengthening the worldwide partnership for development; for prosperity and for peace. We believe that it will promote concrete support by UNCTAD for building that partnership as well as for facilitating trade and investment.

We have a shared responsibility to roll back the harsh effects of past policies. And we owe it to future generations not to perpetuate patterns of domination and dependence; of pessimism and crude self-interest. Peace and development are indivisible. Without relief of the poverty which pervades much of the world, our democracy and human rights will for many only be a formality, and always remain in jeopardy.

We are confident that the United Nations, and this Conference in particular, will take the world forward along the road of partnership and responsibility in building just and equitable relations.

I wish you well in your deliberations, and hope you will have a memorable stay in our country.

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ADDRESS BY MR. ALEC ERWIN, MINISTER FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY OF SOUTH AFRICA AND PRESIDENT OF THE NINTH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

I have already thanked the member States of UNCTAD for the honour they have bestowed on my country by electing South Africa to the Presidency.

It is not an easy task that has been given to the Presidency. This is more particularly the case because, in the documentation I have read and in the deliberations I have heard so far, I have a real sense that UNCTAD stands poised - it can slip back or move decisively forward. There are many organizations in this world that exist simply because they exist. Their *raison d'être* is submerged in their institutional history. The complexity of their daily functioning and of the world within which they operate leads to inertia. This Conference must not allow UNCTAD to walk down that path; if it does it will cease to exist in the foreseeable future. There are many reasons why this could happen.

The changes in the global economy and the urgency with which development must be addressed will not tolerate complacency. Successful organizations are those whose members want them to exist and work to keep them changing as circumstances change. Members do not accommodate themselves to the organization's existence, they work to ensure that the organization accommodates their needs and aspirations.

I believe that UNCTAD stands poised with the potential to move in this, more positive, direction. South Africa assumes the Presidency in the firm belief that we must create in UNCTAD an organization whose participants want concrete outcomes. We cannot fail in this task. If we do, it will be a real blow to the prospects for development.

As newcomers to UNCTAD, we South Africans want to assist the process of reinvigorating the organization. Not so long ago we ourselves were faced with the horrifying prospect of failure. It may sound somewhat polemical, even dramatic, to compare the prospect South Africa faced two years ago with the apparently more measured and diplomatic choices that confront UNCTAD at this Conference. But delaying development for two billion marginalized people is to us a horrifying prospect.

I, personally, was heartened by the sense of passion conveyed by the Heads of State who addressed the enormity of the poverty problem in the Ministerial Round Table. If UNCTAD does have an important role to play in trade and development - as I believe it has - then to eliminate that role by failing to mobilize our energies during this Conference would be a great indictment on all of us.

I believe, if we are frank with ourselves, that this Conference will have to be seen to have conducted itself differently - it must exhibit a vigour, a sense of urgency and purpose and a new desire for efficiency. This will engender a confidence and momentum sorely needed in our world today.

It would seem to me that UNCTAD must look beyond its institutional history and re-examine its rationale and precise location in a changing world economy. One theme of this Conference is partnership. But what does that mean in practice. To me it means a clear definition of each other's role and function, a clear understanding of the reasons for forming the partnership and a definition of common work towards common objectives. Of course, there need to be good working relationships if the partnership is to be a good one. This Conference must, therefore, explore these notions of partnership in relation to other multilateral agencies, intergovernmental relations and institutions, the civil society and NGOs, and the private business sector.

We have to guard against complacency; we must be pro-active and innovative, and in doing so point to concrete roles which UNCTAD will play. Where it will render technical and operational assistance, these services must be driven by the need to solve problems, answer difficult questions and create new possibilities.

We have had a great start to this ninth Conference. The openness and frankness of the Heads of State and of the Agencies must point the way. As the individual charged with the Presidency, I call on all delegates to:

- Speak your minds in the Round Tables - let us address issues and seek solutions. We need fresh minds and fresh ideas;

- Be economical with words and formal courtesies;

- Work to solve the perennial problems - do not create new ones.

With your cooperation, I am sure that we can look forward to a successful Conference.

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ADDRESS BY MR. RUBENS RICUPERO, SECRETARY-GENERAL OF UNCTAD, TO THE NINTH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT, ON 30 APRIL 1996

There are times when a man has to be born again if he wishes to be saved. So it is with institutions, so it is with nations. This is why no better venue than South Africa could have been chosen for UNCTAD at the hour of its Renaissance.

As this most brutal of centuries draws painfully to its end, what is happening here restores our faith in the brotherhood of man, in the power of the human spirit to heal and to forgive.

South Africa is our sole consolation for the massacres of Bosnia and Rwanda. It is a living proof that miracles of peace and reconciliation still exist in our day.

We were the contemporaries of Hitler and Eichmann, of Stalin and Beria. But we can proudly say that we are also the contemporaries of President Nelson Mandela, whose generosity, whose wisdom of the heart made this miracle possible.

For the honour of sharing with you this unique and privileged moment of your History, of human History, we say thanks to the Government and people of South Africa, whose example will inspire us to be no less bold in the attempt to reinvent our partnership and no less successful in giving birth to a new institution.

ZA.96-55161 (E)

As the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Dr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali, noted in his able summary of Saturday's two high-level round tables, globalization and the unification of markets are both "a new reality and an irreversible reality". It is, in my view, the culmination of a long historical process of contacts and unification of cultures and civilizations that began in the sixteenth century with what later came to be known as "The Age of Discoveries".

How to promote growth and sustainable development within the context of these two widely accepted realities: finding ways to take advantage of opportunities that arise and working together to minimize the higher risks that flow from these phenomena, especially to the most vulnerable, is the key challenge before us at this ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.

But there is also, of course, a second major challenge before us, and that is to determine the future role of UNCTAD as an instrument for the achievement of these objectives. Despite its 32 years of service to the cause of equitable economic development, and the many achievements that UNCTAD has to its credit, UNCTAD's sole justification for its future existence must be its continued relevance and practical contributions to member States. A successful Conference will therefore be one in which you as my shareholders, to borrow a corporate metaphor, put in place a revamped and revitalized UNCTAD, one which is able to serve you even better in the years ahead.

As you know, with this objective in mind, earlier this month a sweeping reorganization of the secretariat began to take place: nine divisions were collapsed into four, creating clusters of work designed to promote synergies between our different fields of activity, while bureaucratic support structures were sharply reduced. Let me emphasize that this restructuring has not been impelled by the United Nations financial crisis, but by the desire to bring the instrument of UNCTAD up-to-date, to reflect the many changes on the world scene of recent years.

Breathing life into the new body taking shape, by determining UNCTAD's priorities and future work programme and finding ways to accommodate the dynamic "new actors" for development - private companies and elements of civil society - will then be your task. Many important details of the restructuring must inevitably await the outcome of this Conference. But, thereafter, the new structure should be put into effect as soon as possible with the necessary flexibility and open-mindedness to make adaptations in the light of reality. We will, of course, welcome all suggestions and ideas about how to best implement our shared goals of an improved and much more effective organization.

A successful Conference must also be one in which the intergovernmental machinery is overhauled. The Trade and Development Board made a good start to this task at its eighteenth special session in December 1995. And I believe there is a large degree of consensus among member States as to where they would like to go in this respect. Now, they must complete the job, to ensure that all the machinery of UNCTAD is fully operational soon after close of business on 11 May. To make this happen, the Conference must take up the details of such matters as the terms of reference of intergovernmental bodies.

To conclude these scene-setting remarks, the Conference should set clear priorities for the coming years. In doing so, it almost goes without saying, priority-setting should not be to the detriment of UNCTAD's broad mandate in the field of trade and development. Without the capacity for a global vision, analysing the underpinnings of complex economic phenomena and undertaking empirical studies of successful developmental experiences, UNCTAD would be unable to offer sound technical assistance and policy advice to those who need it most.

In his latest book, *The Age of Extremes*, after concluding that the globe is now the primary operational unit in the economic sphere and that older units such as national economies are being reduced to what he calls "complications of transnational activities", the distinguished British historian Eric Hobsbawm writes the following:

> "Perhaps the most striking characteristic of the end of the twentieth century is the tension between this accelerating globalization and the inability of both public institutions and the collective behaviour of human beings to come to terms with it."

As human beings summoned to South Africa from around the globe to participate in determining the destiny of one of those public institutions, while we may agree with Hobsbawm's judgement, the task now before us is to prove him wrong. Based on the collective energy with which members engaged in pre-Conference negotiations in Geneva as well as the resounding success of Saturday's opening event, I, for one, am convinced that the auguries are good.

AN APPREHENSIVE ERA

The background to this collective effort, however, is a universal climate of gripping anxiety and fear, a fear of the unknown more acute perhaps than any since the early voyagers set out on uncharted seas to unknown lands in search of treasures that often turned out to be myths. Fear is infectious. And it can be disabling. In this there is no distinction between seemingly mighty governments and humble individuals.

The pervasive malaise fuelled by fear, the possibility of a backlash against globalization, has two basic causes. The first is the fear of an uncertain future, of losing one's job, of lower pay, of countries becoming marginalized. The second cause is the feeling of injustice, the suspicion that once more the price of globalization will be paid by the poor and the weak.

Against fear, there is only one remedy. We have to demonstrate in concrete ways that there is life after globalization. People live much more from the future than from the present. But faith in the future is synonymous with hope. And hope does not thrive with injustice. As national barriers fall and a single unified market begins to take shape, competition is exacerbated. Competition, as with every game, needs fair rules and strong arbiters, rules to empower countries and people to compete on an equal footing, efficient governments and international organizations to enforce those rules.

It is in this regard that the slogan adopted by UNCTAD at Cartagena in 1992 of "A Partnership for Development" must be given real significance in the

coming period. Partnership implies solidarity, standing shoulder to shoulder and helping those less equipped to cope with a more competitive global economy. The logic of competition has to be balanced by the logic of solidarity.

There, then, lies UNCTAD's vocation. UNCTAD must, and will, remain the guardian of the world's development conscience, striving for greater equity and a narrowing of the disparities between nations. Those disparities are growing. And they may be exacerbated, at least initially, by the forces of globalization and liberalization.

But that is no reason for being faint-hearted or to abandon the challenge. It is a reason to come up with new tools, such as those of information technology, and new development strategies, particularly for LDCs, the small economies, and those dependent on export revenues from one or two commodities. We must invent new market-based ways of mobilizing private capital and expertise to create economic opportunities for the poor inside nations and for the poor countries of the world.

Many of these countries are here in Africa, giving special significance to this Conference. Their growing vulnerability to the vagaries of global economic forces must be recognized by multinational institutions and the international community at large, and appropriate, adequate, timely solutions must be found.

Increasingly UNCTAD must offer practical advice and tangible support to developing countries, carefully calibrated in accordance with their differing stages of development and of integration into the world economy. At the same time, UNCTAD must retain its role as a universal forum for discussions and consensus-building on development issues, while providing members with the intellectual tools they need through the provision of high-quality, development-orientated, macroeconomic research. One without the other would be like the sound of one hand clapping.

THE TASK AHEAD

Moving on to what specifically UNCTAD should be doing over the coming period, a useful distinction can be drawn at the outset between those developing countries which need help in developing their supply capabilities and those which have a problem of access - whether this be to markets, capital or technology. UNCTAD has the in-house capacity to work on both lines. Helping developing countries and economies in transition integrate better, and more fully, into the international trading and economic system is clearly central.

In the light of the Uruguay Round and the establishment of the World Trade Organization, UNCTAD is uniquely equipped to undertake several interrelated tasks. Firstly, to prepare developing countries and countries in the process of accession to WTO - and there are now 29 countries in such a situation - for the new demands that will be placed upon them; to explain to them the opportunities that are provided by this more predictable regulatory environment, and to advise them on the consequences of globalization and liberalization.

Secondly, UNCTAD should be mandated to tackle, from both a macro and microeconomic perspective, the problems of marginalization and exclusion. These issues are by no means new. But the political will to do something concrete about it has, until now, been largely lacking. It would be a historic aberration if a force destined to unify and integrate the world were to end up by excluding peoples, countries and continents. The excluded 2 billion have not yet benefited from the universal success of the market economy model. But the market and the forces of the private sector that make it work can and must be used for the integration of the poor.

Sustainable development has been a characteristic of our work to date, and it should be encouraged and promoted further. Our work on trade and the environment is one such example. In this regard, I am convinced that the economics of the environment will shortly become a matter of growing concern and importance to policy-makers. UNCTAD would be able to make a useful contribution to the research work that has to be undertaken.

I also believe that UNCTAD must put more emphasis on investment and enterprise development. They are the fuel and the engine of growth, the only way in which jobs can be created. UNCTAD shares with others the conviction that the promotion of small and medium-sized enterprises in particular is vital for developing countries. At the same time, transnational companies have the capacity to provide countries with an unrivalled package of assets for growth and development. As UNCTAD has noted, a growing number of these big players on the world stage are based in developing countries.

The relationship between UNCTAD and the WTO has been a question mark for some people of late. Any misgivings about whether there is room for the two organizations should be laid to rest. Strong and growing links are being established between us in a clearly complementary and mutually supportive relationship. The joint technical assistance programme that Mr. Ruggiero and I announced last Friday for Africa should be proof of this assertion.

If it is true that NGOs, development institutes, and other parts of the civil society are playing an increasingly dynamic role in development, then it is incumbent on us all to find better ways of integrating them into UNCTAD's work. I very much hope that this Conference will seize this moment to give them the place they deserve in our daily work for development.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, let me stress once more that we have to build consensus on a balanced strategy for growth and development. We must seek to complement competition with solidarity, to balance the efficiency of markets to create wealth and innovation with the need for an effective State capable of providing the legal and institutional framework for growth, income distribution and human development. We must recognize that each country has the primary responsibility for the adoption of the sound macroeconomic policies necessary for its development, that, as the President of Costa Rica put it, nobody will do for us what we ourselves do not want to undertake. But if this primary responsibility of taking one's destiny in one's own hands is a necessary condition, it is by no means sufficient. We absolutely need an international community that provides an enabling economic external

environment of growth, a renewed spirit of cooperation for development, official aid and debt relief, particularly for those who will not be able to survive and progress if abandoned to their own limited resources.

In sum, we need today, as we did 32 years ago, no less determination to face the challenge of widening inequality, of absolute poverty, of human despair. Above all, our first and foremost duty is towards the poorest among the poor, the least developed countries, the small and weakened economies. For UNCTAD, and for me personally, it is a matter of deep moral commitment and a matter of honour that those countries receive from us more and better services, that we can effectively contribute to the task of eliminating absolute poverty and the very existence of a category of countries that constitute a living indictment of our failure in fighting the most extreme forms of deprivation. As it has often been said, we will be judged by the way we treat the weakest and most vulnerable members of the international community, and in our case of the UNCTAD community.

That brings me back to the theme of justice, and justice, first of all, for this most marginalized and sacrificed continent where we meet today, Africa. The violence, suffering and poverty of Africa is perhaps the biggest and most grave failure of the twentieth century. We are all in debt to Africa for what we have been taking from it for centuries. I come from a country which was to a very large extent built by African forced labour, a country where a conservative politician speaking in Parliament 150 years ago stated: "Africa civilizes America". He said that in defence of the institution of slavery. But he was saying the truth because without the talent, the pain and toil of millions of Africans, civilization would not have been built in my country and in many of our countries. We have never given back to Africa not even a small part what we took away from it and I am afraid that the words of the poet, T.S. Eliot, could be well applied to us:

"Whatever we inherit from the fortunate
We have taken from the defeated"

It is time to start paying this huge human and social debt, which is much bigger than that other one, the financial debt to banks and governments. We have to come up with sensible and practical solutions to African needs, inspired by another great man who devoted his life to care for the Africans, Albert Schweizer, who described himself as a "pessimist in knowledge but an optimist in hope and action". Quoting Eliot again:

"History may be servitude
History may be freedom"

It depends on ourselves whether this time History will be freedom from hunger, from deprivation, from disease. For that, we do not need to repudiate our past. We must, on the contrary, rekindle our original inspiration and original thirst and hunger for justice and progress if we wish at the same time to reinvent UNCTAD and to return to what was and remains valid in its past. In the future, when people will remember this Renaissance Conference for UNCTAD, I hope that they will apply to us T.S. Eliot's words:

"In our beginning is our end, in our end is our beginning".

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Ninth session
Midrand, 27 April 1996

MESSAGE RECEIVED FROM H.E. MR. LI PENG, PREMIER OF THE STATE COUNCIL OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

On the occasion of the convocation of the ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in Midrand, South Africa, I wish to extend, on behalf of the Chinese Government and people, our warm congratulations to the Conference.

The world economy at present is developing along the direction of globalization and liberalization, with growing interdependence between nations. However, the inequitable international economic order continues to seriously constrain the economic development of developing countries, leading to a widening gap between the North and the South. Being held against this backdrop, UNCTAD IX is an important Conference in the field of the international economy towards the end of this century. It is my hope that the Conference will, through this session, make new contributions to fostering the expansion of world trade, particularly the trade and development of developing countries, promoting the South-South dialogue and North-South cooperation, and setting up a new international economic order.

As the only intergovernmental body within the United Nations system for comprehensive review of trade, development and other related issues, UNCTAD shoulders a heavy responsibility in the period ahead. As always China will attach importance to, and support, the work of UNCTAD. We are willing to join in the common efforts with the rest of the world to bring about a stable and prosperous world economy in the next century.

I wish the Conference a complete success.

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DRAFT REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT ON ITS NINTH SESSION

Held in Midrand, South Africa,
from 27 April to 11 May 1996

Rapporteur: H.E. Mrs. Carmen Luz Guarda (Chile)

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ZA.96-55210 (E)

PREFACE

(i) In conformity with United Nations General Assembly resolutions 1995 (XIX) of 30 December 1964 and 50/98 of 20 December 1995, the ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development was held at the Gallagher Estate Conference Centre, Midrand, Gauteng Province, Republic of South Africa, from 27 April to 11 May 1996. The Conference was preceded by a one-day Meeting of Senior Officials at Midrand on 26 April 1996. The representatives of ... States members of UNCTAD participated in the Conference.

(ii) The Trade and Development Board, in the exercise of its functions under General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX), and in particular paragraph 21 thereof, served as the preparatory committee for the ninth session of the Conference. The Board began these preparations at its seventh (pre-sessional) executive session (15 September 1994), when it requested the then Officer-in-Charge of UNCTAD to initiate informal consultations on the provisional agenda for the Conference and other related matters.

(iii) At the second part of its forty-first session, on 31 March 1995, the Board approved the substantive item of the provisional agenda for the ninth session of the Conference (item 8) together with the agreed annotations thereto.

(iv) At the first part of its forty-second session, on 18 September 1995, the Board adopted decision 430 (XLII) on the date and venue of the ninth session of the Conference. In paragraph 3 of the decision, the Board requested the Secretary-General of UNCTAD to make all the necessary arrangements for the Conference.

(v) The General Assembly, in its resolution 50/98 of 20 December 1995, welcomed with appreciation the generous offer made by the Government of South Africa to host the ninth session of the Conference and accordingly decided to convene the session at Midrand, Gauteng Province, South Africa, from 27 April to 11 May 1996, to be preceded by a one-day meeting of senior officials at the same place on 26 April 1996.

(vi) In the context of the preparatory process for UNCTAD IX, the Board adopted, at its eighteenth special session on 15 December 1995, recommendations 431 (S-XVIII) on the review of the intergovernmental machinery of UNCTAD.

(vii) Subsequently, the Board held its twelfth executive session (26 February-29 March 1996) to launch the substantive preparations for the

ninth session of the Conference. At the 872nd (opening) plenary meeting, on 26 February 1996, the Board established an open-ended Committee of the Whole which, meeting informally under the chairmanship of the President of the Board, was mandated to elaborate a substantive pre-Conference text and to consider any other matters that might be relevant to the preparatory process for UNCTAD IX. The Committee of the Whole reported on the outcome of its deliberations to the Board at its 873rd closing plenary meeting, on 29 March 1996. At that meeting, the Board took note of the pre-Conference text circulated in TD/B/EX(12)/CRP.4/Rev.2 and decided to submit the text, subject to minor editorial or technical corrections, as an official document of the ninth session of the Conference, to serve as a basis for negotiations on item 8 of the Conference agenda. The Board also approved the provisional agenda and annotations for the Pre-Conference Meeting of Senior Officials, to be held in Midrand on 26 April 1996 (TD(IX)/PCM/Misc.1).

(viii) At the same session, as is customary for the organization of the Conference, the Board had to select the country that would be seated first in alphabetical order in Midrand. The name of the country drawn by lot was Latvia.

(ix) As part of the intergovernmental preparations for the ninth session of the Conference, three regional meetings were held at the Ministerial level. The final documents and the dates and venues of these meetings were as follows:

"Amman Final Documents" adopted by the Eighth Ministerial Meeting of the Asian Group of the Group of 77, held in Amman, Jordan, from 9 to 11 January 1996 (AS/MM/77(VIII)/1/Rev.1);

"Caracas Declaration" adopted by the Latin American Coordination Meeting for the ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held in Caracas, Venezuela, from 16 to 18 January 1996 (LA/MM/77(VIII)/1);

"Addis Ababa Declaration on UNCTAD IX" adopted by the Meeting of African Ministers responsible for Trade, Regional Cooperation, Integration and Tourism, held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 14 to 16 February 1996 (AF/MM/77(VIII)/1).

(x) The final documents of these three regional meetings were taken into account by the Trade and Development Board at its twelfth executive session dealing with the substantive preparations for the Conference (cf. para. vii

above), and were considered also by the Eighth Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77 held in Midrand on 28 April 1996. They were officially brought to the attention of the Conference under cover of a note by the UNCTAD secretariat (TD/370).

(xi) The Eighth Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77, convened on 28 April 1996, held two formal meetings to deal with procedural matters. The Ministerial Meeting also held two informal Ministerial Round Tables on the following subjects:

- The challenges of development in the context of the agenda of UNCTAD IX;
- The future role of the Group of 77 in UNCTAD.

At its closing meeting, the Ministerial Meeting adopted the "Ministerial Declaration of the Group of 77", which was subsequently submitted to the Conference in TD/372.

(xii) The following intergovernmental meetings were also regarded as having a contributory role to play in the preparatory process for UNCTAD IX:

High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Mid-term Global Review on the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, held in New York from 25 September to 6 October 1995 (for the report, see TD/B/LDC/GR/8);

International Seminar on Technical Cooperation for Trade and Development in the Face of Globalization, held in Ascona, Switzerland, from 23 to 24 November 1995 (for the report, see UNCTAD IX/Misc.1 and Corr.1);

Topical Seminar on Environment, Competitiveness and Trade: A Development Perspective, held in Helsinki, Finland, from 18 to 19 January 1996 (for the report, see UNCTAD IX/Misc.2);

Conference on East Asian Development: Lessons for a New Global Environment, held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, from 29 February to 1 March 1996 (for the report, see UNCTAD IX/Misc.3);

International Round Table on the Promotion of the Private Sector and the Role of Government, held in Bonn, Germany, from 6 to 9 February 1996 (for the report, see UNCTAD IX/Misc.4);

Meeting of Experts on Networking among Economic Actors: Technology Partnership for Capacity-Building and Competitiveness, held in Helsinki, Finland, from 10 to 12 April 1996 (for the report, see UNCTAD IX/Misc.5);

Conference on Capital Flows in Economic Development, held in Annandale-on-Hudson, United States of America, from 7 to 9 March 1996 (for the report, see UNCTAD IX/Misc.6);

Inter-Agency Seminar on Globalization and Liberalization: Effects of International Economic Relations on Poverty, held in Geneva, Switzerland, from 15 to 17 April 1996 (for the draft conclusions and recommendations, see UNCTAD IX/Misc.7).

(xiii) In connection with the substantive work of the ninth session, the following documents were submitted to the Conference:

Globalization and liberalization: development in the face of two powerful currents - Report of the Secretary-General of UNCTAD to the ninth session of the Conference (TD/366/Rev.1);

"Guidelines concerning the European Union basic position on the Conference agenda", circulated to the Conference under cover of a note by the UNCTAD secretariat entitled "Basic position of the European Union on UNCTAD IX" (TD/369).

(xiv) In the course of the ninth session of the Conference a Meeting of Ministers of Least Developed Countries was held on 1 May 1996. On that occasion, the Ministers adopted the Declaration of the Ministerial Meeting of the Least Developed Countries (Midrand, South Africa, 1 May 1996), which was subsequently circulated to the ninth session of the Conference (see TD/373).

(xv) As recommended by the Board at its twelfth executive session, Ministerial Round Tables took place each morning from 30 April to 3 May on the following four themes:

1. Globalization: development, instability and marginalization;
2. International trade as an instrument for development in the post-Uruguay Round world;
3. Enterprise development: national strategies and international support;
4. Future work of UNCTAD in accordance with its mandate; institutional implications.

(xvi) Also in the course of the ninth session, the following parallel events were organized:

- The Raúl Prebisch Lecture (29 April 1996)
  Theme - The Global Economy or the Global Age: An Opportunity, Not Peril
  (delivered by Professor Jagdish Bhagwati, Arthur Lehman, Professor of Economics and Professor of Political Science);
- Seminar on Development Strategy and Management of the Market Economy (29 April 1996), hosted by the United Nations Department of Social Information and Policy Analysis (DESIPA);
- Executive Symposium on Trade Efficiency (29-30 April 1996);
- Africa Connect: Doing business in Africa (2-4 May 1996). A meeting to promote awareness of business and investment opportunities in Africa;
- UNCTAD Seminar on Risk Capital Investment in Africa (6 May 1996);
- UNEP/UNCTAD Seminar on Trade, Environment and Sustainable Development (7 May 1996);
- Joint UNCTAD/World Bank Colloquium on Integrating Developing Countries into the Global Economy: Challenges and Opportunities (7 May 1996);
- Secretariat presentations of UNCTAD technical cooperation activities;
- Small and medium-size enterprise satellite conference (8 and 9 May 1996).

(xvii) At the special Inaugural Ceremony arranged by the Government of the host country on 27 April 1996, the Conference was addressed by H.E. Mr. Nelson Mandela, President of the Republic of South Africa, and by Dr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali, Secretary-General of the United Nations.

(xviii) The Inaugural Ceremony was followed by two High-level Round Tables. Participants in the Round Table of Heads of State were:

- His Majesty King Hussein of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan;
- H.E. Mr. Nelson R. Mandela, President of the Republic of South Africa;
- H.E. Mr. José-Maria Figueres, President of Costa Rica;
- H.E. Mr. Benjamin Mkapa, President of the United Republic of Tanzania;
- H.E. Mr. Jean-Pascal Delamuraz, President of the Swiss Confederation.

Ms. Kitty Pilgrim (CNN) moderated the Round Table of Heads of State. The Round Table of Heads of Agencies was presided over by Dr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali, Secretary-General of the United Nations, with the participation of:

- Mr. Michel Camdessus, Managing Director of IMF;
- Mr. Rubens Ricupero, Secretary-General of UNCTAD;
- Mr. Renato Ruggiero, Director-General of WTO;
- Mr. Sven Sandström, Managing Director of the World Bank;
- Mr. James G. Speth, Administrator of UNDP.

The following five Ministers also participated in the Round Table of Heads of Agencies:

- H.E. Mr. Fernando Naranjo Villalobos, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Costa Rica;
- H.E. Mr. Ali Abu Ragheb, Minister of Industry and Trade, Jordan;
- H.E. Mr. Dan Abodakpi, Deputy Minister for Trade and Industry, Ghana;
- H.E. Mr. Mohamed El Alami, Minister of Foreign Trade, Morocco;
- H.E. Ms. Kari Nordheim-Larsen, Minister for Development Cooperation, Norway.

(xix) In the course of the general debate (agenda item 7), which took place in the plenary from 30 April to 3 May 1996, ... statements were delivered by high-level representatives of States members of UNCTAD. In addition, ... statements were made by representatives of international organizations and specialized agencies. Statements were also made in exercise of the right of reply by the representatives of Greece and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, as well as by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, supported by the United States of America, in response to the statement made by Iraq.

(xx) In the course of the session, messages and good wishes were received from the Heads of State or Government of China, Ghana, Mongolia, Russian Federation and United States of America.

(xxi) At its ... (closing) plenary meeting, on ... May 1996, the Conference adopted

[To be completed as appropriate]

Part One

ACTION TAKEN BY THE CONFERENCE

A. Final document adopted by the Conference

[To be completed by the declaration and final document adopted at the closing plenary]

B. Action by the Conference

Offer by Thailand to host the tenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

At the 242nd plenary meeting, on 30 April 1996, the Deputy Prime Minister of Thailand, H.E. Amnuay Viravan, announced the offer of his country to host UNCTAD X in the year 2000. The Conference welcomed and endorsed the offer of the Government of Thailand by acclamation.

C. Other specific decisions by the Conference

[To be completed as appropriate]

Part Two

STATEMENTS OF POSITION IN RELATION TO THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE CONFERENCE

Note

Part Two will record, if necessary, any statement of position made at the closing plenary meeting in relation to the action taken by the Conference

Part Three

OUTCOMES OF SESSIONAL BODIES OF THE CONFERENCE

A. Report by the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole

1. At the ... (closing) plenary meeting of the Conference, on .. May 1996, the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole, Mr. William Rossier (Switzerland), made the following oral report on the work and outcome of the Committee of the Whole:

[To be completed by the text of the Chairman's oral report]

B. Summary outcome of other meetings

[Inclusion of material subject to approval by the Conference]

Part Four

ORGANIZATIONAL AND PROCEDURAL MATTERS

A. Opening of the Conference

(Agenda item 1)

1. In accordance with rule 16 of the rules of procedure of the Conference, the ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development was declared open on 27 April 1996 by H.E. Mr. Juan Manuel Santos (Colombia), President of the eighth session of the Conference. Mr. Santos delivered an opening address to the Conference.

B. Election of the President

(Agenda item 2)

2. At its 240th (opening) meeting, on 27 April 1996, the Conference elected by acclamation as its President H.E. Mr. Alec Erwin, Minister for Trade and Industry of South Africa. On assuming office, the President of the Conference made a statement.

C. Report of the pre-Conference Meeting of Senior Officials

4. At its 241st meeting, on 30 April 1996, the Conference heard an oral report on the pre-Conference Meeting of Senior Officials, held in Midrand on 26 April 1996, by Mr. William Rossier (Switzerland), President of the Trade and Development Board, in his capacity as Chairman of the Meeting of Senior Officials. The Conference endorsed the proposals and recommendations set forth in the report of the Meeting regarding the procedural and organizational aspects of the work of the ninth session (TD/371).

D. Election of Vice-Presidents and the Rapporteur

(Agenda item 4)

5. At its 241st meeting, on 30 April 1996, the Conference elected Mrs. Carmen Luz Guarda (Chile) as its Rapporteur.

6. At the same meeting, the Conference elected Mr. William Rossier (Switzerland) to serve as Chairman of the Committee of the Whole.

7. In accordance with the distribution of the posts of Vice-Presidents of the Conference recommended by the Pre-Conference Meeting of Senior Officials (cf. TD/371, para. 11), the Conference declared elected the 32 officers who were to serve as Vice-Presidents. (For the complete Bureau, see para. 9 below).

E. Bureau of the Conference

8. In accordance with rule 22 of the rules of procedure of the Conference, the Bureau of the Conference consisted of the following 35 members: the President and the Vice-Presidents of the Conference, the Rapporteur of the Conference, and the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole. The Conference further decided that the composition of its Bureau should be based on the same geographical distribution as that of the Bureau at its eighth session, namely seven members from Africa, seven from Asia, seven from Latin America and the Caribbean, nine from Group B, four from Group D, and China.

9. As a result of the elections reported in sections B and D above, the Bureau of the Conference at its ninth session was as follows:

President of the Conference:

Mr. Alec Erwin	South Africa

Rapporteur:

Mrs. Carmen Luz Guarda	Chile

Chairman of the Committee of the Whole:

Mr. William Rossier	Switzerland

Vice-Presidents:

Mr. Kassahun Ayele	Ethiopia
Mr. Ferdinant Kacou Angora	Côte d'Ivoire
Mr. Carlos Perez Del Castillo	Uruguay
Mr. John Cooke	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Mr. Philippe Cuvillier	France
Mr. Bjorn Ekblom	Finland
Mr. Minoru Endo	Japan
Mr. Mohamed Ennaceur	Tunisia
Mr. Victor Gladush	Ukraine
Mr. Ro-Myung Gong	Republic of Korea
Mr. Y.N. Grekov	Russian Federation
Mr. A.H. Mofazzal Karim	Bangladesh
Mr. Tejendra Khanna	India
Mr. Abdallah O. Kigoda	United Republic of Tanzania
Ms. Melinda Kimble	United States of America
Mr. Yongtu Long	China
Mr. Hans Meyer	Peru
Mr. Patricio Izurieta Mora-Bowen	Ecuador

Mr. Luis Noreiga Morales	Guatemala
Hon. Seymour St. Edward Mullings	Jamaica
Mr. Sirous Nasseri	Islamic Republic of Iran
Mr. Ernesto Ordonez	Philippines
Mr. Atanas Paparizou	Bulgaria
Mr. Gunter Pleuger	Germany
Mr. George Chr. Penders	Netherlands
Mr. Ali Abu Raghib	Jordan
Mr. Ricardo Cabrisas Ruiz	Cuba
Mr. P.N. Sinyinza	Zambia
Mr. Miroslav Somol	Czech Republic
Mr. Thomas Souah	Gabon
Mr. Tugay Ulucevik	Turkey
Mr. Amnuay Viravan	Thailand

10. In accordance with past practice, the Conference decided that the chairmen of other sessional bodies and the coordinators of regional groups would be fully associated with the work of the Bureau.

F. Adoption of the agenda

(Agenda item 6)

11. At its 241st meeting, on 30 April 1996, the Conference adopted the provisional agenda for its ninth session (TD/365) and approved the suggestions for the organization of work of the session (TD/365/Add.1).

G. Establishment of sessional bodies

(Agenda item 3)

12. At its 241st meeting, acting on the recommendation of the Meeting of Senior Officials, the Conference decided to establish a Committee of the Whole, open to the participation of all members of the Conference, to consider and report on the substantive item (agenda item 8) referred to it by the plenary.

13. The Conference agreed to the recommendation made by the Meeting of Senior Officials that the Committee of the Whole establish subsidiary drafting groups to consider and report to it on the issues referred to them.

14. At its 1st meeting, on 30 April 1996, the Committee of the Whole established three subsidiary drafting groups, as follows:

- Drafting Group I, under the chairmanship of Mr. K. Kesavapany (Singapore)
- Drafting Group II, under the chairmanship of Mr. A. Mchumo (United Republic of Tanzania)
- Drafting Group III, under the chairmanship of Mr. B. Skogmo (Norway).

15. At its 2nd meeting, on 1 May 1996, the Committee of the Whole made a preliminary allocation of the work to be done on the pre-Conference text (TD/367) as follows:

Drafting Group I: Globalization, trade and commodities

Paragraphs

9 - 19 ter

21 - 30

32 - 35

46 - 70 bis

78 - 80

85 - 86

Drafting Group II: Investment, science and technology, enterprise development, trade-supporting infrastructure and trade efficiency

Paragraphs

20 - 20 bis

31

36 - 45 ter

71 - 74

81 - 84

87 - 90

Drafting Group III: Institutional issues and technical cooperation

Paragraphs

75 - 77 bis

91 - 110

Annex 1

H. Credentials of representatives to the Conference

(Agenda item 5)

(a) Appointment of the Credentials Committee

16. At its 241st meeting, on 30 April 1996, the Conference established a Credentials Committee composed of the same nine States as had been appointed

by the United Nations General Assembly to serve on the Credentials Committee at its fiftieth session, i.e. Trinidad and Tobago (Chairman); China, Luxembourg, Mali, Marshall Islands, Russian Federation, South Africa, United States of America, and Venezuela.

17. In accordance with past practice, the Conference agreed that, should any of the above States not be represented at the Conference, the regional group concerned be requested to nominate a replacement.

(b) Report of the Credentials Committee

(To be completed)

I. Other business

(Agenda item 9)

(To be completed as appropriate)

J. Adoption of the report of the Conference to the General Assembly

(Agenda item 10)

(To be completed)

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Ninth session
Midrand, 27 April 1996

REPORT OF THE HIGH-LEVEL MEETING ON ISLAND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Note by the UNCTAD secretariat

In accordance with paragraph 8 of General Assembly resolution 50/116, the report of the High-level Meeting on Island Developing Countries, held at United Nations Headquarters in New York on 22 and 23 April 1996 (E/CN.17/1996/IDC/3-UNCTAD/LLDC/IDC/3) is being made available to the Conference at its ninth session.*

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* Copies of the report will be available, in English and French, at the Documents Distribution Counter.

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CROSS-SECTORAL ISSUES, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO THE CRITICAL ELEMENTS OF SUSTAINABILITY

Trade, environment and sustainable development

(Chapter 2 of Agenda 21)

Decision adopted by the Commission on Sustainable Development on 3 May 1996

Note by the UNCTAD secretariat

For the information of participants in the Conference, the text of draft decision E/CN.17/1996/L.15 (of 1 May 1996) on "Trade, environment and sustainable development", which was subsequently adopted by the Commission on Sustainable Development on 3 May 1996, is being made available to the Conference in the form in which it has been received, namely the English version of E/CN.17/1996/L.15.*

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Expression of gratitude to the Government and people of the Republic of South Africa

Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole

The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development,

Meeting at its ninth session at Midrand at the invitation of the Government of South Africa,

Deeply appreciative of the invitation to host the Conference and the immense and successful efforts made by the Government and people of South Africa in the preparation and organization of the Conference,

Noting with satisfaction the efficiency and thoroughness of the services placed at the disposal of the Conference Centre at the Gallagher Estate in Midrand,

Noting also with gratitude the warm welcome and hospitality extended by the people of South Africa to all participants in the Conference,

1. Recognizes with great satisfaction the valuable contribution made by the host Government to the forward-looking achievements of the Conference;

2. Acknowledges with particular appreciation the personal commitment of the President of the Conference to the work of the Conference;

ZA.96-55274 (E)

3. Expresses its sincere appreciation to the Government and people of South Africa for the generous hospitality and warm friendship accorded to the participants in the Conference;

4. Requests the President of the Conference to convey these sentiments to the President of the Republic of South Africa and, through him, to the people of South Africa.